

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Healy et al.

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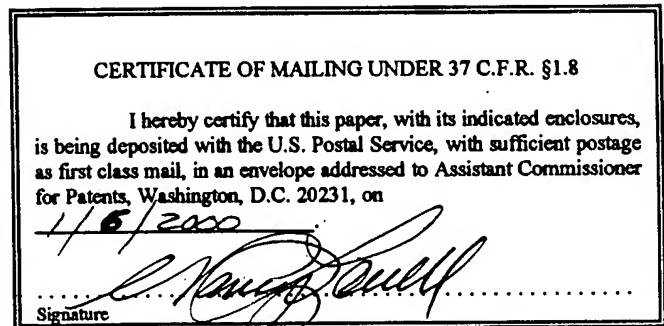
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Group No.:

Examiner:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:



SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

This Information Disclosure Statement, including completed Form PTO-1449, comprises a list of pertinent art of which applicants are aware. A copy of each publication listed on Form PTO-1449 is enclosed herewith. The submission of this Information Disclosure Statement and Form PTO-1449 is not an admission that the art cited is "prior" with respect to the present invention, nor is it a representation that no better art exists. Applicants hereby reserve the right to swear behind or otherwise disprove any alleged "prior" nature of any art cited should the facts support and the situation warrant such an action.

It is submitted that the art cited does not constitute a bar to the patentability of Applicants' invention under 35 U.S.C. § 102 or § 103.

Applicant is filing this Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97/(b)(3), i.e., before the first Office Action on the merits. No fee is believed to be due for this submission. However, the Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency to our deposit account 10-0447, reference 42133.9USPT(BAI).

Respectfully submitted,

JENKENS & GILCHRIST, P.C.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J. Benjamin Bai". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

J. Benjamin Bai
Reg. No. 43,481

Date: 1/6/2000, ~~1999~~
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